

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Bennett**

) Art Unit: 2626

Serial No.: 10/653,039

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) Examiner: *Martin Lerner*

Filed: August 29, 2003 as continuation-in-part of  
09/439,145 filed November 12, 1999, now U.S.  
patent 6,633,846

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For: Query engine for processing voice based  
queries including semantic decoding

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ENTRY  
APPROVED  
-TJR  
12/10/07

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE B AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed September , 2007, Applicant respectfully submits the following response to place this case in condition for allowance. Alternatively, and in addition to the arguments presented herein, the Applicant requests that the Final status be withdrawn as premature, since the Examiner did not in fact cite a new reference against the new limitations added to the main independent claims. As noted in the Office Action, the Examiner has simply relied on the previously cited Junqua et al. reference against the "search predicates" and "logical operators" language that was added. Accordingly, since the new reference was not necessitated by any amendment the Applicant submitted, the Finality should be withdrawn.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 5.

Please enter the following as a substitute for the pending claims: